

## Message Text

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65-61

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 H-02 L-02 PRS-01 OC-05

CCO-00 DODE-00 SP-02 PM-03 /046 W

----- 090683

R 251020Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4092

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 3454

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: LETTERS TO PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE NELSON ROCKEFELLER  
AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE CARL ALBERT FROM RVN LOWER  
HOUSE SPEAKER NGUYEN BA CAN AND SENATE PRESIDENT TRAN VAN LAM

1. BELOW IS TEXT OF IDENTICAL LETTER (EXCEPT FOR SALUTATIONS) SENT  
TO SENATE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER AND HOUSE SPEAKER ALBERT FROM THE  
LEADERS OF THE TWO HOUSES OF THE RVN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. THE LETTERS  
ARE NOT BEING MADE PUBLIC HERE BUT THERE WOULD BE NO OBJECTION TO  
THEIR PUBLICATION IN WASHINGTON. ORIGINALS BEING POUCHED EA/VN.

2. BEGIN TEXT: THE HONORABLE NELSON ROCKEFELLER, PRESIDENT OF THE  
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, WASHINGTON, D.C. (THE  
HONORABLE CARL ALBERT, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
UNITED STATES CONGRESS, WASHINGTON D.C.). SAIGON, MARCH 25, 1975.

3. MR. PRESIDENT, (MR. SPEAKER,);

4. TWO MONTHS AGO, WE HAD THE PRIVILEGE TO BRING YOUR ATTENTION  
TO THE DISASTROUS EFFECT OF A SIZABLY REDUCED U.S. MILITARY AID  
TO OUR ARMED FORCES DURING THE FIGHTING AGAINST OUR COMMON ENEMY.

5. DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS, WHILE THE AMERICAN CONGRESS WERE  
DISCUSSING AID CUT TO SOUTH VIETNAM, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS  
HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED MILITARY PRESSURES THROUGHOUT THE FOUR  
MILITARY REGIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. THEY HAVE AGAIN, IN  
BLATANT VIOLATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, ATTACKED AND CAPTURED  
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THE CITY OF BAN-ME-THUOT AND CUT THE TWO VITAL NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

LINKING THE COAST AND THE HIGHLANDS. IN ADDITION, THEY HAVE MULTIPLIED THEIR ATTACKS AGAINST MOST OF OUR MAJOR PROVINCES IN MILITARY REGION II.

6. MOST RECENTLY, THE COMMUNISTS HAVE MASSIVELY CROSSED THE NORTHERN DEMARCATION LINE TO LAUNCH A LARGE-SCALE ATTACK AGAINST QUANG-TRI AND THE ANCIENT IMPERIAL CITY OF HUE WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDER THE CONTROL OF OUR GOVERNMENT BEFORE THE PARIS ACCORD.

7. FACED WITH A VERY DISADVANTAGEOUS POSITION OF HAVING TO FIGHT AT A RATION OF 4 OR 5 TO 1 IN FAVOR OF THE ENEMY IN SEVERAL PLACES, OUR ARMED FORCES WERE COMPELLED TO REDEPLOY IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THEIR STRENGTH AND TO CREATE A MORE DEFENSIBLE CONDITION.

8. AS WE HAVE HAD OCCASION TO REPORT TO YOU BEFORE, DURING THE PAST 25 MONTHS, IN UTTER CONTEMPT OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, NORTH VIETNAM HAS INFILTRATED AN ESTIMATED 240,000 NEWLY RECRUITS TO SOUTH VIETNAM. WITH THE INFILTRATION OF AN ADDITIONAL 660 TO 885,

ENEMY TRACKED VEHICLES NOW NUMBER 750 TO 1,000. AT THE TIME OF THE CEASE-FIRE, ENEMY 122MM AND 130MM FIELD-GUNS NUMBERED 100 TO 120. AN ADDITIONAL 350 TO 490 HAVE BEEN INFILTRATED SINCE THEN, BRINGING THE TOTAL OF THESE FIELD-GUNS TO 450-610. ALL THE ARTILLERY PIECES PUT TOGETHER WOULD GIVE THE ENEMY A FORCE OF AN ESTIMATED 1,000 HEAVY GUNS. IN ADDITION, A NETWORK OF SOPHISTICATED

INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT HAS ALSO BEEN ESTABLISHED. NATURALLY, THE BALANCE OF FORCE HAS BEEN TIPPED SEVERELY IN FAVOR OF NORTH VIETNAM.

9. IN THE OTHER HAND, THE FIGHTING CAPABILITY OF OUR TROOPS IN 1975 HAS BEEN REDUCED BY 60 PERCENT AS AMERICAN MILITARY AID TO

SOUTH VIETNAM SHRUNK FROM US\$2,270.5 BILLION IN 1973 TO US\$700 MILLION IN 1975, OR BY 70 PERCENT.

10. FOR OUR PART, IT IS BEYOND QUESTION THAT OUR PEOPLE AND ARMED FORCES HAVE DONE ALL THEY CAN TO VALIANTLY RESIST THE ENEMY'S ATTEMPT TO CONQUER SOUTH VIETNAM. JUST A FEW DAYS AGO, THE CONFIDENTIAL

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GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM HAS DECREED THE MOST SWEEPING MEASURES TO MOBILIZE OUR PEOPLE IN ORDER TO FIGHT THE COMMUNIST AGGRESSION: FROM NOW ON, ALL ABLE-BODIED SOUTH VIETNAMESE MEN FROM 17 UP TO 43 WILL BE DRAFTED TO SERVE IN THE ARMED FORCES. AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE PUT A BAN ON ALL NON ESSENTIAL FOREIGN IMPORTS TO DEVOTE MOST OF OUR RESOURCES TO OUR STRUGGLE TO PRESERVE OUR LIBERTY.

11. OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES, THE UNITED STATES, BY ACTIONS AND WORDS, HAVE PERSUADED THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE TO TAKE A STAND

AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS. BECAUSE OF THEIR FAITH IN AMERICA, THEY HAVE STAKED THEIR LIVES AND THE LIVES OF THEIR FAMILIES ON THE SINCERITY OF AMERICAN PROMISES. IT IS BEYOND THE SHADE OF A DOUBT THAT THE COMMUNIST WILL NEVER FORGIVE OUR POPULATION FOR THEIR CHOICE OF TAKING SIDE WITH THE FREE WORLD, WITH AMERICA.

12. INDEED, THE PROSPECT OF A BLOODBATH IS REAL IF AND WHEN THE COMMUNIST TAKE OVER SOUTH VIETNAM. EVIDENCES OF THIS ASSERTION ARE AMPLE: THE 1968 TET OFFENSIVE AND THE MASSACRE IN HUE, THE 1972 EASTER OFFENSIVE, AND MOST RECENTLY, THE BATTLES OF PHUOC LONG AND BAN ME THUOT. WHENEVER THE COMMUNIST CAME, THEY SYSTEMATICALLY

EXECUTED ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, SOLDIERS, POLICE, CHURCHMEN, AND THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH THE U.S. MOREOVER, THE MANNER IN WHICH THEY HAVE CARRIED OUT THE EXECUTION IS BEYOND HUMAN IMAGINATION AND IS UNWORTHLY OF EVEN MENTIONING IT HERE.

13. AS RESULTS OF THE ENEMY'S RECENT ATTACKS, THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES AMIDST WAR FLAMES AND AROUND A MILLION HAVE FLED THEIR HOMETOWNS, LEAVING BEHIND ALL THEIR PROPERTIES

TO SEEK REFUGE IN GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED AREAS: THEY ARE, BY ACTION, PARTICIPATING IN A VERY ACTIVE ELECTION: THEY ARE VOTING BY THEIR FEET, AND VOTING FOR FREEDOM.

14. THE HUGE COLUMN OF REFUGEES WHO MADE UP THE LARGEST EXODUS EVER KNOWN IN THE VIETNAM HISTORY HAS CLEARLY MANIFESTED THE MOST DRAMATIC REJECTION OF NORTH VIETNAM'S COMMUNISM.

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15. MR. PRESIDENT, (MR. SPEAKER,)

16. AT THIS TIME, THE ONLY QUESTION THAT ARISES IN EVERYONE'S MIND - AND NOT ONLY IN SOUTH VIETNAM - IS WHAT THE UNITED STATES IS GOING TO DO ABOUT ALL THIS. THE UNITED STATES IS A SIGNATORY TO THE PARIS AGREEMENT OF JANUARY 27, 1973. IT HAS FORMALLY ENDEAVORED TO GUARANTEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THAT AGREEMENT. WILL IT THEN STAND MEEKLY ASIDE WHILE THE AGREEMENT IS TORN TO PIECES BY HANOI? WILL IT RENEGE FROM ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM?

17. THEREFORE, IN THE FACE OF THE CURRENT PERILOUS SITUATION, WE BELIEVE IT NECESSARY TO RAISE OUR VOICE AGAIN AND APPEAL TO THE U.S. CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT TO HONOR THE COMMITMENTS TO ITS ALLY.

18. WE SOLEMNLY REITERATE HERE WHAT THE U.S. HAD PROMISED TO OUR COUNTRY AT THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS ACCORD ON JANUARY 27, 1973 IN ORDER TO GET OVER FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AMERICAN TROOPS OUT OF VIETNAM: THAT THE U.S. WILL PROVIDE ADEQUATE MILITARY AID TO THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM FOR HER SELF-DEFENSE AND EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. THE U.S. WILL ALSO PROVIDE THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM WITH REPLACEMENT OF DESTROYED OR WORN-OUT WEAPONS AND AMMUNITIONS ON A ONE-FOR-ONE BASIS.

19. IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE COMMUNIST FROM BUILDING THEIR STRENGTH, THE U.S. ALSO GAVE US ASSURANCE THAT 15 DAYS AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS ACCORD COMMUNIST NORTH VIETNAM WILL STOP HER ENCROACHMENTS OF THE TERRITORIES OF LAOS AND CAMBODIA WHICH SHE HAD BEEN USING AS A SPRINGBOARD TO ATTACK THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.

20. IN FACE OF THE ENEMY'S DIRECT ATTACK ON THE FOUNDATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND ON THE BASIS OF THOSE PLEDGES AS WELL AS ON THE PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS WHICH WERE MADE BY FOUR PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES TO VIETNAM, WE SOLEMNLY APPEAL TO THE U.S. CONGRESS AND GOVERNMENT TO TAKE IMMEDIATE AND DRASTIC MEASURES TO RESTORE THE PARIS AGREEMENT AS IT WAS IN JANUARY 27, 1973, THAT IS: (1) TO FORCE THE NORTH VIETNAMESE BACK TO THEIR INITIAL POSITIONS AT THE TIME OF SIGNING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND (2) TO DELIVER TO US ON TIME ALL THE NECESSARY MEANS TO REDRESS THE BALANCE OF FORCES AND FOR US TO DEFEND OURSELVES.  
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21. WE KNOW THAT ONLY YOUR PROMPT ACTIONS CAN SAVE THE PARIS AGREEMENT, ONLY YOUR DRASTIC MEASURES CAN SAVE THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

22. WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE, MR. PRESIDENT (MR. SPEAKER) IF YOU COULD COMMUNICATE THE CONTENTS OF THIS LETTER TO YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THE SENATE (IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE U.S. CONGRESS).

23. SINCERELY YOURS, NGUYEN BA CAN, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM; TRAN VAN LAM, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM. END TEXT.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TREATY VIOLATION, TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, APPROPRIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchantr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975SAIGON03454  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750104-0686  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750318/aaaaappe.tel  
**Line Count:** 215  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchantr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by buchantr>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LETTERS TO PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE NELSON ROCKEFELLER AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE CARL ALBERT FROM RVN LOWER  
**TAGS:** PFOR, VS, (ALBERT, CARL), (ROCKEFELLER, NELSON), (NGUYEN BA CAN), (TRAN VAN LAM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006